Introduced by Senator Battin

February 16, 2006

An act to amend Section 56000 of the Government Sections 85, 86, and 88 of the Penal Code, relating to local government bribery.

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL'S DIGEST

SB 1308, as amended, Battin. Local government: reorganization. *Bribery*.

Existing law subjects a person who offers to give a bribe to a Member of the Legislature or a person on the member's behalf, or who attempts through specified corrupt means to influence the vote of a member, to imprisonment in the state prison.

This bill would, in addition, subject a person who offers to give a bribe to any member of the legislative body of a city, county, city and county, school district, or other special district, or a person on the member's behalf, or who attempts through specified means to influence the vote of any member of a legislative body of a city, county, city and county, school district, or other special district, to imprisonment in the state prison.

Existing law subjects any Member of the Legislature who asks for or receives a bribe in exchange for influence over his or her official action to imprisonment in the state prison.

This bill would, in addition, subject any member of the legislative body of a city, county, city and county, school district, or other special district who asks for or receives a bribe in exchange for influence over his or her official action to imprisonment in the state prison. SB 1308 -2-

Existing law requires any Member of the Legislature convicted of a crime involving bribery to forfeit his or her office and disqualifies him or her from ever holding office again.

This bill would, in addition, require any member of the legislative body of a city, county, city and county, school district, or other special district who is convicted of a crime involving bribery to forfeit his or her office and would disqualify him or her from ever holding office again.

Because this bill would expand the applicability of certain crimes, it would impose a state-mandated local program.

The California Constitution requires the state to reimburse local agencies and school districts for certain costs mandated by the state. Statutory provisions establish procedures for making that reimbursement.

This bill would provide that no reimbursement is required by this act for a specified reason.

Under the Cortese-Knox Local Government Reorganization Act of 2000, the local agency formation commission in each county is required to review, conduct a hearing and election if required, and approve or disapprove proposals for changes of organization or reorganization of cities and districts within the county.

This bill would make a technical, nonsubstantive change to a provision in the act.

Vote: majority. Appropriation: no. Fiscal committee: no-yes. State-mandated local program: no-yes.

The people of the State of California do enact as follows:

- 1 SECTION 1. Section 85 of the Penal Code is amended to 2 read:
- 85. Every person who gives or offers to give a bribe to any
- 4 Member of the Legislature, any member of the legislative body of
- 5 a city, county, city and county, school district, or other special
- 6 district, or to another person for him the member, or attempts by
- 7 menace, deceit, suppression of truth, or any corrupt means, to
- 8 influence a member in giving or withholding his *or her* vote, or
- 9 in not attending the house or any committee of which he *or she* is
- 10 a member, is punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for
- 11 two, three or four years.
- 12 SEC. 2. Section 86 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

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1 86. Every member of either of the houses composing house of 2 the Legislature of this state, or any member of the legislative 3 body of a city, county, city and county, school district, or other 4 special district, who asks, receives, or agrees to receive, any 5 bribe, upon any understanding that his or her official vote, 6 opinion, judgment, or action shall be influenced thereby, or shall 7 give, in any particular manner, or upon any particular side of any 8 question or matter upon which he or she may be required to act in his or her official capacity, or gives, or offers or promises to give, 10 any official vote in consideration that another Member of the 11 Legislature, or another member of the legislative body of a city, 12 county, city and county, school district, or other special district 13 shall give this vote either upon the same or another question, is 14 punishable by imprisonment in the state prison for two, three, or 15 four years and, in cases in which no bribe has been actually 16 received, by a restitution fine of not less than two thousand 17 dollars (\$2,000) or not more than ten thousand dollars (\$10,000) 18 or, in cases in which a bribe was actually received, by a 19 restitution fine of at least the actual amount of the bribe received or two thousand dollars (\$2,000), whichever is greater, or any 20 21 larger amount of not more than double the amount of any bribe 22 received or ten thousand dollars (\$10,000), whichever is greater.

In imposing a fine under this section, the court shall consider the defendant's ability to pay the fine.

SEC. 3. Section 88 of the Penal Code is amended to read:

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88. Every Member of the Legislature, and every member of a legislative body of a city, county, city and county, school district, or other special district convicted of any crime defined in this title, in addition to the punishment prescribed, forfeits his or her office and is forever disqualified from holding any office in this state or a political subdivision thereof.

SEC. 4. No reimbursement is required by this act pursuant to Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution because the only costs that may be incurred by a local agency or school district will be incurred because this act creates a new crime or infraction, eliminates a crime or infraction, or changes the penalty for a crime or infraction, within the meaning of Section 17556 of the Government Code, or changes the definition of a crime within the meaning of Section 6 of Article XIII B of the California Constitution.

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- 1 SECTION 1. Section 56000 of the Government Code is
- 2 amended to read:
- 3 56000. The provisions of this division shall be known and
- 4 may be cited as the Cortese-Knox-Hertzberg Local Government
- 5 Reorganization Act of 2000.